



Tony Allred, MDNR/TEA*
Ken Belt, Baltimore/LTER
Christine Buckley, Harford Co.*
Mark Castro, UMCES/AL
Brian Clevenger, MDE*
Kim Coble, CBF
Jim Cummins, ICPRB*
Tom Devilbiss, Carroll Co.*
John Grace, MDE
Mary Ellen Ley, USGS/CBP*
Abby Markowitz, Tetra Tech*

Andrew Miller, UMBC
Angela Morales, Howard Co.
Nancy Roth, Versar, Inc.*
Steve Stewart, Baltimore Co./DER
Robert J. Shedlock, USGS*
William P. Stack, Baltimore City/DPW*
Paul Sturm, CWP
Chris Tanner, SMC
Carl Weber, UMBC*
Ken Yetman, DNR/WRD*

Executive Secretary: Dr. Paul Miller, MDNR/MANTA

Members Present: *Indicates that the Board member was present at this meeting.

Guests: Marcia Smith, MDE; Ron Klauda, MDNR; Tamara McCandless, USFWS; Emery Cleaves, MGS, Matt Rowe, MDE

MINUTES
MWMC Quarterly Board Meeting
USFWS/Annapolis Field Office
Admiral Cochrane Dr.
Annapolis, MD
October 14, 2003

Chairman Stack called the meeting to order at 10:00. He welcomed board members and guests and called upon past Chairman Cleaves to share his items of interest with the group.

Emery Cleaves reported that Maryland Geological Survey (MGS) had 25% of their general funds cut and, as a result the Survey is unable to meet some of their stream gaging commitments. MGS has about 8 months to find funds that would cover the cost of the network. SHA is also cutting back, which will further erode the support for stream gages. MGS committed \$72K to operation of ground water level and quality gages but will not be able to meet that commitment.

Advisory Committee on the Management and Protection of the State's Water Resources – Bill Stack

Bill Stack has been nominated to the Governor's Advisory Committee on the Management of the States Water Resources. The task force is to recommend actions for protection of state water resources. The committee hasn't met yet and will be struggling to meet their goals without adequate monitoring information.

US Fish and Wildlife Service Stream Monitoring Program – Tamara McCandless

Tamara McCandless of the Stream Habitat Assessment and Restoration Program (SHARP) at USFWS described that the program was developed to provide assistance to landowners and local, state and federal agencies in evaluating and restoring stream systems.

A program is developed, on request, to give assistance with stream habitat assessment of landscape scale changes due to land use changes and training provided by USFWS for restoration activities.

Watershed assessment approaches are presently being used by SHARP on 3 watersheds in DE, Oxon Run at PG/DC boundary and at Patuxent NAS in St. Mary's County. Project objectives include investigation of causes, documentation of conditions, identification of problems, ranking of restoration reaches, development of recommendations and design procedures. Representative watersheds are studied to avoid more costly surveys of the entire area. Recommendations for watershed landuse restriction are based upon these representative results.

USFWS, MD SHA and USGS are conducting a survey to determine the applicability of Rosgen technology to Maryland streams. Reports are available at: www.fws.gov/v5cbfo/stream.htm

USFWS are using MBSS sites to develop dimensionless ratios for determining success criteria for restoration of streams in the Western Coastal Plain.

National Water Monitoring Council – Abby Markowitz

The afternoon of the National meeting was devoted to the Maryland Council. The presentation was put together by Abby and is being edited for the MWMC web site. Discussions revolved around how the benefits of collaboration are realized. Also how can the National Council focus their efforts and resources to support local (state) councils. Eva Ammentorp talked about how this support works in Region 3 which contains some of the strongest state councils in the nation.

The Ad Hoc Funding Committee for Supporting the Activities of the Council - Bill Stack.

The Ad Hoc Funding Committee is identifying funding requirements of the Maryland Water Monitoring Council. They, also, discussed various activities that could fund individual projects such as workshops and the Annual Conference.

Abby volunteered to participate on the ad hoc Funding Committee. She suggested adding the salary contribution of members to the council as a match for what may be requested from others.

It is requested that Board members send their estimate to Bill Stack. Bill will send out an announcement to Board members to send in hour amounts contributed as well as salary costs and travel costs.

Annual Conference Progress Report – Brian Clevenger and Paul Miller

The Conference agenda has been completed except for 2 slots in the afternoon technical session. Bill Stack suggested that Committee chairs could come on to the stage during the Plenary Session and participate in a single power point presentation. Abby will coordinate the presentation with contributions from each of the committees.

Stakeholder Group Plans

Academic Group

The Academic stakeholder group has drafted a letter to request information to develop a "phonebook" of academic activities related to water monitoring. A follow-up meeting will be scheduled for after the Holidays to finalize the letter and develop a mailing list.

Business Group

Nancy Roth and Tetra Tech are identifying "key players" in the business community to contact. Presently, they are struggling with how to define the business community. Private sector is defined by consultants? Industry that does monitoring? Monitoring "Stakeholders?" Bill Stack suggests that we may want to consider having an advisory group consisting of our "audience" (e.g., power companies, agricultural industry developers). Nancy asked that the Board contribute names and contacts of possible audiences in the regulated community for Council products and information. Maryland Environmental Business Association would be a place to look for search contacts.

Government Group

Bob Shedlock reported that there has been no activity since the July meeting of the Board. Bob will be developing a contact list of federal agencies to add to our MWMC "mailing list." Bill Stack encouraged state agencies to contemplate a list of other agencies that could be added to our "audience list." Bill asked that state reps develop the list. Ron Klauda observed that the SHA hires from a list of consultants that produce monitoring data.

Monitoring and Assessment Committee – Ron Klauda

The Monitoring and Assessment Committee has focused on organizing a Stream Monitoring Roundtable. The Roundtable will be held on February 20, 2004 at Fairland Park. The PCC, DMC and M&A Committee will co-sponsor this event. They want to know who is sampling, where they are sampling and what information they will be getting. The Roundtable will highlight monitoring and assessment efforts where collaboration has occurred.

The QA/QC workshop will be held in autumn of 2004. Post Isabel monitoring efforts was discussed and Ron requested any information that Board members may have on the effects of hurricane Isabel. The M&A Committee will meet again in January 2004.

Data Management Committee – Matt Rowe

The Data Management Committee and the Programmatic Coordination Committee are collaborating on a "clickable" map of monitoring activity.

Groundwater Monitoring Workgroup

The Groundwater Monitoring workgroup is divided into two parts. West and east of fall lines, each of these subcommittees will meet separately. A report is envisioned for March or April.

Hydrologic Monitoring Network – Bob Shedlock

Bob Shedlock distributed a handout from their June meeting which contained two definitions for an integrated hydrologic monitoring system.

Board of Director meeting dates were set for January 29, April 13, July 13 and October 12 of 2004. They will be held at the Annapolis Field Office of the USFWS on Admiral Cochrane Drive in Annapolis.

Chairman Stack adjourned the meeting at 2:00pm.

